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SUBJECT: UNGA VOTES FOR COOPERATION WITH PREPCOM, OTHER
ORGANIZATIONS

REF: STATE 116977

¶1. The UN General Assembly (UNGA) considered on November 3 its agenda item on UN cooperation with other international organizations, and passed five resolutions by consensus and one voted text calling for cooperation with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CNTBTO) (64-1-0, United States voted No).

¶2. UNGA passed five resolutions by consensus for cooperation with the following organizations: Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (A/63/L.7), sponsored by India and 29 others; the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC) (A/63/L.9), sponsored by Bulgaria; the Latin American Economic System (A/63/L.10), sponsored by Uruguay; the Council of Europe (CoE) (A/63/L.12), sponsored by Sweden and 33 others; Eurasian Economic Community (A/63/L.13), sponsored by Belarus. Other organizations included within the resolutions' purview were the African Union, Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Caribbean Community, Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the International Organization of la Francophonie), the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Arab League, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the Pacific Islands Forum, the PrepCom, and the Southern African Development Community.

¶3. Cosponsoring resolutions for cooperation with BSEC and CoE, USDel joined consensus on all resolutions except the Swedish-sponsored resolution on the PrepCom for the CNTBTO. Pursuant to reftel instructions, USDel called for a vote and cast a negative ballot. The total was 64 votes for the resolution, one vote against, and no abstentions.

¶4. In opening statements, delegates heard interventions from PrepCom Executive Secretary Tibor Toth and OPCW Director-General Rogelio Pfirter. Pfirter said the major burden for ridding the world of chemical weapons (CW) rests with Russia and the United States. Expressing appreciation to both Member States for fulfilling their obligations, he credited the United States for construction of new CW destruction facilities and for helping other countries eliminate their stockpiles. Pfirter additionally urged Israel and Syria to join the OPCW and encouraged North Korea to make a "positive move."

¶5. On November 4, Uganda, as chair of the OIC Group, submitted a draft resolution specifically endorsing UN cooperation with OIC. Uganda expects the draft to be considered in plenary session before November 11.
Khalilzad